

The Fortunes of Fanny

Nellie Warns Her Friend Against Crandall's Advances.



The two girls discuss their affairs at a Dutch treat dinner.

CHAPTER XXV.
HER work seemed more tiresome than usual to Fanny Hadden after her conversation with Crandall and the hours passed slowly. That evening as she put away scissors, files and cuticle knives, emptied the finger bowl and washed it, then struggled into her coat, her head ached annoyingly. It had been a trying day and the thought of the harvest of the tips which she had received did not for the moment compensate for the weariness of mind and body nor make it possible for her to forget the persistent ad-

vance of several of her customers. She should be hardened to such things by now, she told herself. Scarcely a day had passed since her initiation into the mysteries of the Cairo barber shop that one or another of her patrons had not made some tentative remarks to her—some delicately insinuating, some baldly frank and almost insulting in their import. Remembering the occurrences Fanny acknowledged to her inner self that the more respectful of the attentions bestowed upon her by the over-groomed men of the Broadway type had occasionally flattered her somewhat, even though she had repelled them. Today they had sickened and disgusted her.

She was thinking of Crandall as she nodded her good night to her employer and going out of the shop, climbed the half dozen stone steps to the street. Either she must accept Crandall's invitation or have an open quarrel with him—and her intuition told her that a quarrel would mean her discharge eventually. An oft repeated maxim of her grandmother's occurred to her mind as she threaded her way along the crowded streets—"Nobody can afford to quarrel with his bread and butter." That was what her grandmother had been wont to say.

"I wonder," the girl mused, unconscious that she was speaking aloud—"I wonder."

Nellie Meets Her.
A man paused and looked at her curiously, and with a start of self-recollection, she hurried on. A moment later a hand was laid on her arm and she uttered a stifled exclamation of alarm, then, turning found herself face to face with Nellie Benson.

"Oh! It's you!" Fanny gasped in relief.
"Well, who were you expectin', for the love of Mike?" the other questioned sharply. "What's the matter? What's your hurry? Were you dodgin' arrest—rushin' along at such a rate?"

"Not exactly," Fanny laughed nervously, "but I thought a man was following me."
"Huh!" scoffed Nellie. "If you've been workin' in a barber shop for all this time and are still scared of men speakin' to you, you're some modest little violet—aren't you?"

Fanny flushed uncomfortably, but did not reply, and for a moment the pair walked together in silence. Then Nellie's face and manner softened.
"What's the matter, kid?" she asked. "You look as if some one had left you out all night in the rain. Too much Christmas shopping?"

"I've a dreadful headache," Fanny answered wearily. "I've been working hard all day and I tired out. I wish I had somebody to do Christmas shopping for—but I'm all alone now."

"You're not alone in that, I guess," Nellie observed practically. "You sure must have the blues for fair—haven't you? What you need is to stop thinkin' how badly off you are and come to supper with me. That will make your head better, and we'll go to a show of some kind or other. I'm flush this evenin'."

"It's ever so kind of you, Nellie," Fanny began, "but—"
"But you've got to go home and feed the cat, or darn your stockings, or puttin' out kind," her friend interrupted with sarcasm. "Now listen to me, Fanny. There's nothin' like makin' people from mornin' to night to give you the willies in the worst way. I've been there myself. The whole human race looks like a bunch of four-flushers after you've been polishin' it's finger nails for hours at a stretch. If I let you go home now, you'll only mope around your room and think what lovely sleepin' places Woodlawn and Greenwood are. You need to take a brace, and it's up to me to see that you take it. I know a nice place near here where you can get real food, even if the table cloths ain't linen. Come on, let's go to—"

Crandall Has a New Light.
"I'll go with you," Fanny agreed, "on one condition. It's to be my treat this time. Please, Nellie," she insisted, as her companion looked doubtful. "I like to, honestly. I've taken in lots of money in tips today, and that's always sheer gain."

"Nothin' doin'," Nellie pronounced. "But we'll go butte if you insist. I want to hand you out a lecture, perhaps, and I want to pay for the privilege. Come along now."

She grasped her friend by the arm, and together they walked in the direction of Sixth avenue. When they were seated opposite each other at a table in a corner of the restaurant of which Nellie had spoken, Fanny sighed with weariness, then smiled.
"This is lots nicer," she said, appreciatively, "than eatin' alone and then going home to that cold icebox of a room where I live. There's no way of gettin' heat into it except from the hall, so if I want to be all alone and shut the door I have to wear my coat until bedtime to keep from shiverin'."

"And it's some cost!" the other remarked, glancing at the garment suspended from a hook behind its owner. "Who gave it to you?"

She watched her companion as she asked the question and Fanny winced under the scrutiny. "I bought it," she said, defiantly. "I bought it myself with money I earned and got in tips." "Is that Crandall guy still bangin' around?" Nellie inquired.

"I see him now an then," Fanny returned. "He's been very kind to me." "Yes," rejoined Nellie, enigmatically. "I guess he has. He's kind to a lot of people—I don't think"—Copyright, 1914, by Star Company.

Why Not?
One of those beautiful Mexican Lace Wheelwork. Handkerchiefs for that Xmas presents, at Beach's Art Shop, 408 San Francisco St.—Advertisement.

Clean coal and full weights mean fuel economy. R. C. Sample, successor Southwestern Fuel Co., phone 531.—Adv.

Little Mary's Essay

Cats, Animal and Human, and Some of the Faults of Each Variety.

BY DOROTHY DIX.

CATS are animals when they aren't folks. A cat has four legs, one on each corner, and a fur coat that it wears both winter and summer, and a noise inside of it that sounds like a dollar watch.

Cats have almost human intelligence, for they purr when you rub their fur the right way. Just like people do when you jolly them and tell them how wonderful they are. Also they will hang around a place as long as you will make them warm and comfortable and give them something good to drink, and in this also they resemble man.

Cats are very useful for carrying about diphtheria, scarlet fever and tuberculosis germs from house to house. These they secrete in their fur, so that the baby can easily find them when it plays with kitty.

There are a great many different kinds of cats. There are Angora cats, and Manx cats, and Maltese cats, and Tabby cats, and Thomas cats, and the cat of nine tails, and the woman next door, who is the biggest cat of all. Mostly old maids keep cats, and they do this for purposes of defense so they can talk about the smart things their cats do when mothers begin to tell about the cunning things their children say.

Cats have very musical dispositions. They love to get out on the back fence at night and sing, and if you had paid 36 a seat for it, you would think you were at the opera at a Wagner performance.

When a woman says to another, "How young you look for your age," or, "How splendidly you are looking this winter; you must have gained 25 pounds during summer, didn't you?" or, "What a beautiful new bunch you have, I always think those little inexpensive diamonds are so refined," she is a cat. I know this because what my mamma said when the woman next door said those things to her, and then my father said, "What did you do?" and my mother said, "I don't know," and my father said, "New!"

A woman does not like to be called a cat, but she smiles all over when you call her a kitten, and it makes a man angry to call him a puppy, but he is pleased if you call him a sly dog. I do not know why this is so.

My mother says that no woman can make good acting kittenish after she begins to wear a hand painted complexion, and to hunt for a good straight front corset. My mother says that when a fat middle aged woman tries to act cute, she looks like a performing elephant instead of a playful kitten.

I hope I shall not be a cat when I grow up.

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SAYS RAILROAD OFFICIALS SHIFT BLAME TO EMPLOYEES

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 18.—Charges that railroad operating officials shift responsibility for the mishaps of those below them; that "safety first" is a joke with some railroads, and that minor officials disregard agreements signed between the men and the railroad heads, were made by Warren S. Stone, grand chief engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, at Thursday's session of the railroad arbitration hearing.

Stone insisted that the demerit system, as applied to engineers, is unjust, and demanded a "square deal." He contended that demerit marks are never forgotten by railroad heads, although the engineer in the meantime may acquire many merit marks.

Clean coal and full weights mean fuel economy. R. C. Sample, successor Southwestern Fuel Co., phone 531.—Adv.

Full-Worth Roofing—\$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 per roll. Burton-Lingo Co., phone 50.—Advertisement.

Sevens or Caps at Monte were for wedding or Christmas presents, special discount, at Klein's old reliable curio store, 429 San Francisco street.—Adv.

COAL COMPANY CREATES "PERSONAL LINK" OFFICE

Denver, Colo., Dec. 18.—The Colorado Fuel and Iron company has taken steps to provide a means of easy access of employees to officials of the company. This was in conformity with a letter of J. P. Welborn, president of the company, to J. B. Rockefeller, Jr., stating that some such plan was under consideration.

Mr. Welborn stated that David Griffiths, former state coal mine inspector, had been appointed to a newly created position with the company and would be an additional personal link between employees and officials and would have "the widest authority for action in matters relating to working and social conditions of the miners and their families."

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Altura Cash Grocery;
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The Magazines and Calendars have many pretty pictures, if framed neatly make handsome pictures for your little girls' bedroom; we frame them inexpensively.

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